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Germany

Oilseeds and Products

Estimate for German rapeseed crop raised again 2004

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Report Highlights:

The German Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food, and Agriculture (BMVEL) has raised its preliminary estimate for the German 2004 winter rapeseed crop to 5.216 million MT compared to the previous estimate of 5.17 million MT, and last year's crop of 3.6 million MT. Summer rapeseed is estimated at 38,900 MT compared to 77,800 MT in 2003. Higher yields did not compensate for reduced summer rapeseed area. The total rapeseed crop is estimated at 5.252 million MT.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Berlin [GM1]
[GM]

The German Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food, and Agriculture (BMVEL) has raised its crop estimate for winter rapeseed from 5.17 million MT to 5.216 million MT. This is a record crop, up 47 percent from the drought-affected crop of 3.56 million MT in 2003. Summer rapeseed is estimated at about 38,900 MT (no previous estimates available) compared to 77,800 in 2003. The reduction is due to a reduced area which was not compensated for by higher yields. In 2003 the summer rapeseed area was exceptionally high because a high share of the winter rapeseed suffered from severe winter kill and had to be replanted with summer rapeseed. This was not necessary in 2004. The total estimated rapeseed crop amounts to 5.252 million MT.

The big increase in the 2004 crop is mostly a result of better yields due to little winter kill and good growing conditions in spring and summer. The rapeseed area increased only marginally by 1 percent compared to 2003. According to the BMVEL estimate, the average winter rapeseed yield increased by 42 percent from 29.2 MT/ha in 2003 to 41.3 MT/ha in 2004. The average summer rapeseed yield increased from 1.64 MT/ha in 2003 to 2.3 MT/ha in 2004. Details for winter rapeseed yields by state are shown in the table on page 3.

Table 1: German Area and Production of Rapeseed by State*

State	2003 final (1000 ha)	2004 preliminary (1000 ha)	change (in %)	2003 final (million MT)	2004 preliminary (million MT)	change (in %)
Mecklenburg-						
West Pomerania	227.3	233.9	2.9	756.9	1052.8	39.1
Saxony-Anhalt	126.5	139.2	10.0	371.8	577.7	55.4
Bavaria	165.9	137.0	-17.4	392.9	527.8	34.3
Schleswig-Holstein	102.7	113.9	10.9	388.6	500.6	28.8
Saxony	118.2	118.1	-0.1	307.2	492.4	60.3
Brandenburg	112.3	110.0	-2.0	223.6	450.1	101.3
Thuringia	108.3	109.8	1.4	313.0	433.0	38.3
Lower Saxony	89.5	102.4	14.4	278.4	411.9	48.0
Baden-Wuerttemberg	70.1	64.7	-7.7	185.0	244.2	32.0
North Rhine-Westfalia	52.2	57.0	9.2	159.0	221.2	39.1
Hessia	56.3	55.9	-0.7	161.4	194.2	20.3
Rhineland-Palatinate	32.4	33.8	4.3	87.3	135.3	55.0
Saarland	3.3	3.1	-6.1	7.0	10.7	52.9
Total	1,266	1,279	1	3,634	5,252	45

*ranked by production in 2004

Source: German Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food, and Agriculture (BMVEL)

The increase in winter rapeseed yields by state are the more prominent the lower the yields were in 2003, i.e. the more the crop that suffered from the summer drought in 2003.

Table 2: Winter Rapeseed Yields per Hectare by State and Year

